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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00
	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-01	/039W			
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R 221103Z JUN 94
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2868
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
OAU COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 004625

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: AORC, PREL, OAU, XA, XI
SUBJECT: OAU FRENCH INITIATIVE ON RWANDA

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS RECEIVED BY EMBASSY ADDIS
ON 22 JUNE FROM THE OAU INFORMATION CENTER.

BEGIN TEXT:

IN RESPONSE TO THE MANY AND VARIED ENQUIRIES
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FROM THE MEDIA ON THE REACTION OF THE OAU TO THE
FRENCH INITIATIVE TO SEND AN INTERVENTION FORCE TO
RWANDA, THE OAU SPOKESMAN WISHES TO STATE AS FOLLOWS:

-- 1. THE OAU CONTINUES TO BE GRAVELY CONCERNED OVER
THE MASSACRES AND WANTON KILLINGS BEING PERPETRATED
IN RWANDA.

-- 2. THE OAU IS EQUALLY GRAVELY CONCERNED BY THE
CONTINUED HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THE FORCES OF THE
INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND THOSE OF THE RWANDESE

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PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF).

-- 3. THE OAU WOULD WANT TO SEE URGENT INTERNATIONAL ACTION IN ORDER TO BRING AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE MASSACRES AND KILLINGS. IT WOULD ALSO WANT TO SEE AN IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES.

-- 4. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT THE OAU HAD CALLED ON AND WELCOMED THE DECISION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO EXPAND THE STRENGTH OF THE FORCES OF THE UN ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA (UNAMIR) TO 5,500 TROOPS AS CONTAINED IN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 918 (1994). THIS CONCERN WAS AMPLY DEMONSTRATED IN TUNIS DURING THE SESSIONS OF BOTH THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT RESPECTIVELY WHICH MADE STRENUOUS EFFORTS TO GET THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO AGREE TO AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND TO WORK FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ARUSHA PEACE PROCESS.

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-- 5. PARTLY AS A RESULT OF CONTACTS BY THE OAU SECRETARY GENERAL IN CONSULTATION WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL, A NUMBER OF AFRICAN LEADERS COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO SEND TROOPS TO RWANDA TO SERVE UNDER THE EXPANDED UNAMIR II.

-- 6. AS AT THE TIME OF THE TUNIS SUMMIT, AND IN RESPONSE TO THE APPEAL AND REQUEST MADE BY THE OAU, OVER 4,000 TROOPS HAD ALREADY BEEN COMMITTED BY A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THE MAIN CONSTRAINING FACTOR HAS BEEN THE FAILURE OF THOSE COUNTRIES WITH THE NECESSARY MEANS TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED LOGISTICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ENABLE THE TROOPS TO BE QUICKLY DEPLOYED IN RWANDA.

-- 7. GIVEN THIS BACKGROUND AND GIVEN AFRICA'S EXPRESSED COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE WORLD BODY, IT IS THE VIEW OF THE OAU THAT THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAY WAS TO ENSURE THE DEPLOYMENT OF THESE TROOPS UNDER UNAMIR II, SPEEDILY.

-- 8. NOTE SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN THAT THE TWO PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT HAVE WELCOMED THE DEPLOYMENT OF UNAMIR II.

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-- 9. IT IS THEREFORE, THE CONSIDERED VIEW OF THE OAU THAT ANY AND ALL ACTIONS BY AN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES SHOULD CONSEQUENTLY BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THAT INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS, AND OF THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA. THIS EXPANDED UN INVOLVEMENT IN
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RWANDA HAS THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE OAU.

-- 10. WHILE THE OAU FULLY UNDERSTANDS AND APPRECIATES THE CONCERN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING FRANCE, OVER THE CARNAGE THAT CONTINUES TO BE PERPETRATED IN RWANDA, IT IS AT THE SAME TIME CONCERNED THAT GIVEN THE EXPRESSED OPPOSITION BY ONE OF THE MAJOR PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, THERE ARE FEARS OF POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS AND INDEED, DANGERS OF SUCH AN ACTION.

-- 11. THE OAU REMAINS CONVINCED THAT THE NECESSARY RESOURCES AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT SHOULD BE URGENTLY AND IMMEDIATELY MADE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY PLEDGED TROOPS SO THAT THEY CAN BE QUICKLY DEPLOYED UNDER THE UNAMIR II.

ADDIS ABABA
21 JUNE 1994

END TEXT.

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